CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1.   A method comprising:

2   generating a user identity value associated with a user identity;

3   storing the user identity value;

4   generating a registry security value associated with a system registry;

5   storing the registry security value; and

6   authenticating the system registry after reading the system registry.

1 2.   A method as in claim 1, wherein generating a user identity value associated with a

2 user identity comprises inserting at least one of the username and password in a one-way

3 function to obtain the user identity value associated with the user identity.

1 3.   A method as in claim 1, wherein generating a registry security value associated

2 with a system registry comprises:

3 concatenating system registry information; and

4 inserting the concatenated system registry information in a one-way function to obtain the

5 registry security value.

1 4. A method as in claim 3, wherein concatenating system registry information

2 comprises concatenating at least one of system registry files and system registry handle

3 keys.

1 5. A method as in claim 1 wherein authenticating the system registry after reading

2 the system registry comprises:

3 generating a new registry security value;

4 comparing the new registry security value with the stored registry security value; and

5 allowing processing to continue if the new registry security value is equal to the stored

6 registry security value.

1 6. A method as in claim 1 further comprising modifying the system registry in

2 response to being provided the user identity value and the registry security value.

1 7. A method comprising:

2 detecting an attempt to change a system registry;

3 generating a user identity value associated with the user identity;

4 comparing the user identity value with a stored user identity value; and

5 modifying the system registry in response to being provided the user identity

6 value equal to the stored user identity value.

1   8.   A method as in claim 7, wherein modifying the system registry in response to

2   being provided the user identity value comprises modifying the system registry in

3   response to an application program providing the user identity value.

1   9.   A method as in claim 7, wherein detecting an attempt to change a system registry

2   comprises detecting an attempt to write to the system registry.

1   10.   An article of manufacture comprising:

2   a machine-accessible medium including instructions that, when executed by a

3   machine, causes the machine to perform operations comprising

4   generating a user identity value associated with a user identity;

5   storing the user identity value;

6   generating a registry security value associated with a system registry;

7   storing the registry security value; and

8   authenticating the system registry after reading the system registry.

1   11.   An article of manufacture as in claim 10 wherein instructions generating a user

2   identity value associated with a user identity comprises further instructions for inserting

3   at least one of the user's username and password in a one-way function to obtain the user

4   identity value associated with the user identity.

1   12.   An article of manufacture as in claim 10 wherein instructions for generating a

2   registry security value associated with a system registry comprises further instructions for

3   concatenating system registry information; and

4   inserting the concatenated system registry information in a one-way function to

5   obtain the registry security value.

1   13.   An article of manufacture as in claim 12, wherein instructions for concatenating

2   system registry information comprises further instructions for concatenating at least one

3   of system registry files and system registry handle keys.

1   14.   An article of manufacture as in claim 10 wherein instructions for authenticating

2   the system registry after reading the system registry comprises further instructions for

3   generating a new registry security value; comparing the new registry security value with

4   the stored registry security value; and

5   allowing processing to continue if the new registry security value is equal to the stored

6   registry security value.

1   15.   An article of manufacture as in claim 10 further comprising instructions for

2   modifying the system registry in response to being provided the user identity value and

3   the registry security value

1   16.   An article of manufacture comprising:

2   a machine-accessible medium including instructions that, when executed by a

3   machine, causes the machine to perform operations comprising

4   detecting an attempt to change a system registry;

5   generating a user identity value associated with the user identity;

6   comparing the user identity value with a stored user identity value; and

7   modifying the system registry in response to being provided the user identity

8   value equal to the stored user identity value.

1   17.   An article of manufacture as in claim 16, wherein instructions modifying the

2   system registry in response to being provided the user identity value comprises further

3   instructions for modifying the system registry in response to an application program

4   providing the user identity value.

1   18.   An article of manufacture as in claim 16, wherein instructions for detecting an

2   attempt to change a system registry comprises further instructions for detecting an

3   attempt to write to the system registry.

1   19.   An apparatus comprising:

2   a bus;

3   a data storage device coupled to said bus; and

4   a processor coupled to said data storage device, said processor operable to receive

5   instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to

6   generate a user identity value associated with a user identity;

7   store the user identity value;

8   generate a registry security value associated with a system registry;

9   store the registry security value; and

10   authenticate the system registry after reading the system registry.

1   20.   An apparatus as in claim 19, wherein the processor operable to receive

2   instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to

3   generate a user identity value associated with a user identity comprises the processor to

4   insert at least one of the username and password in a one way function to obtain the user

5   identity value.

1   21.   An apparatus as in claim 19, wherein the processor operable to receive

2   instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to

3   generate a registry security value associated with a system registry comprises the

4   processor to concatenate system registry information; and to insert the concatenated

5   system registry information in a function to obtain the registry security value.

1   22.   An apparatus as in claim 21, wherein the processor to concatenate system registry

2   information comprises the processor to concatenate at least one of system registry files

3   and system registry handle keys.

1   23.   An apparatus as in claim 19 wherein the processor operable to receive instructions

2   which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to authenticate the system

3   registry after reading the system registry comprises the processor to generate a new

4   registry security value;

5   compare the new registry security value with the stored registry security value; and

6   allow processing to continue if the new registry security value is equal to the stored

7   registry security value.

1   24.   An apparatus as in claim 19 wherein the processor operable to receive instructions

2   which, when executed by the processor, further causes the processor to modify the

3   system registry in response to being provided the user identity value and the registry

4   security value.

1   25.   An apparatus comprising:

2   a bus;

3   a data storage device coupled to said bus; and

4   a processor coupled to said data storage device, said processor operable to

5   receive instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to

6   detect an attempt to change a system registry;

7   generate a user identity value associated with the user identity;

8   compare the user identity value with a stored user identity value; and

9   modify the system registry in response to being provided the user identity value

10   equal to the stored user identity value.

1   26.   An apparatus as in claim 25, wherein the processor operable to receive

2   instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to modify the

3   system registry in response to being provided the user identity value comprises the

4   processor to modify the system registry in response to an application program providing

5   the user identity value.

1   27.   An apparatus as in claim 25, wherein the processor operable to receive

2   instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to detect an

3   attempt to change a system registry comprises the processor to detect an attempt to write

4   to the system registry.